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Honorable Theodore R. McKeldin
Governor of Maryland
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Governor McKeldin:

Recalling your exchange of correspondence with Mr. Dulles, in December 1955, I am sure you will be interested to know that our selection of a portion of the Bureau of Public Roads property at Langley, Virginia as the site for our new building has been approved and we are proceeding with our plans for the development of that property. Congress has appropriated $4,000,000 for the construction of our headquarters and $3,500,000 for the extension of the George Washington Memorial Parkway from its present terminus at Spout Run to a point near the site we have selected.

As our planning progresses, we continue to be intensely interested in the activities of the local planning authorities in Maryland and Virginia. I have noticed in the press recently that the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission is actively revising plans and recommendations regarding the state highway program in the counties which are contiguous to the District of Columbia with a view toward submitting to the Maryland State Roads Commission suggested revisions to your 10-year program. The Circumferential Highway and the Cabin John Bridge are, of course, elements of this program which are of primary interest to this Agency.

Perhaps you will recall from reading the Clarke-Saltzman report which, I believe, Mr. Dulles sent to you in December 1955, that while the planned improvements to the Key Bridge, the widening of the section of Route 123 in Virginia and the extension of the George Washington Memorial Parkway to Langley were considered to be adequate to provide access to the Langley site, it was also pointed out in that report that the construction of the Cabin John Bridge, the Circumferential Highway and other planned arterial connections

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in the State of Maryland will greatly improve the general traffic situation in the area. While we remain firm in our belief that the improvements to Route 123, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, and the Key Bridge will be adequate, we recognize the obvious potential improvement to the accessibility which will result from the completion of the Circumferential Highway and the Cabin John Bridge, particularly for the 10% of our people who presently reside in Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties. In addition, it is my personal opinion that the availability of these improvements is not to be entirely discounted in terms of potential benefit to at least a portion of the 3% among our people who reside in the Northwest section of the District of Columbia.

With these factors in mind we are naturally hopeful that the Maryland Route Location Commission will consider favorably the acceleration of their completion and that they will be included among the earliest projects to be undertaken under your 12-year program.

We deeply appreciate the interest you have shown in this matter and hope that you will consider calling upon us for any assistance which we may appropriately render in the development of these plans.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

C. P. Cabell
Lieutenant General, USAF
Acting Director

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Originated by: /s/ 8/27/56
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Concurrence: [redacted]
James K. Gaynor,
Director of Logistics

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OL/MPS [redacted]:mec (27 August 1956)

AUG 28 1956

(signed) H. Gates Lloyd
H. Gates Lloyd
Acting Deputy Director
(Support)

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